中田アキラ
店長、恋です。
KADOKAWA

STOP
You will be seeing the CREDIT PAGE next!
These are the people who made it possible
for you to read this story IN ENGLISH. ^^
Remember to say THANK YOU.

It's LOVE, Manager.

"Tenchou, KOI desu."

by. Nakata Akira

CHAPTER 1

Shinmakoku*
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店長、恋です。
中田アキラ
Nakata Akira
It's LOVE, Manager.
"Tenchou, Koi desu."

c o n t e n t s

It's LOVE, Manager. | act.1 | 003

It's LOVE, Manager. | act.2 | 035

It's LOVE, Manager. | Yonemura's shift. | act.1 | 071

It's LOVE, Manager. | Yonemura's shift. | act.2 | 103

I'll make you happy, so get ready! 140

Extra: Yonemura's shift, break time. 174

It's Love, Manager.
act.1

It's been a month since I became the manager of this convenience store.

Right now, what troubles me the most isn't the unfamiliar responsibility...

MANAGER NISHIYAMA~! YOU GOTTA HEAR US OUT!!

OKAY OKAY~ WHAT IS IT?

IT WAS ALREADY THERE WHEN I CAME IN!!

OH —

HE GLARED AT ME SO HARD BECAUSE HE THOUGHT I DIDN'T PUT THE SCISSORS AWAY PROPERLY!

HE TOLD ME OFF AGAIN FOR FORGETTING THAT I LEFT MY TEA IN THE FRIDGE~!!

...but Higashino-kun, the veteran part-timer who handles the night shift.

I CAN HEAR YOU ALL THE WAY AT THE REGISTER.

WHY DOES HIGASHINO-SAN ALWAYS GET PISSED OFF OVER THE SMALLEST THINGS?!

open

WHAT A HORRID ATTITUDE...
OH, DAMMIT. IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN.
Thanks for your hard work!
Bye!
So,
the other part-timers live in fear of him.
silent
Yes...
OH, SORRY! ALRIGHT, GO ON HOME NOW, YOU HIGHSCHOOLERS!
REMEMBER TO SUBMIT YOUR SCHEDULES FOR NEXT MONTH BY THIS WEEK!
But he requests the same perfection from everyone else, and the other part-timers from other shifts
come to complain to me,
...ME!
A really good employee.
An excellent employee.
Higashi-no-kun is a good employee.
IT'S REALLY QUITE TIRE-SOME.
I'm sorry.
Whoa...
THIS BAG EXPIRES TOMORROW. WHY WASN'T IT USED FIRST? IT'S BECAUSE YOU WEREN'T WATCHING THE OTHERS CLOSELY, SO THEY GOT SLOPPY AND DID THIS...
I DISCOVERED SOME EMPTY BAGS OF FRESHLY-DELIVERED KARAAGE IN THE TRASH.
rant
rant
So I get told off daily, too.

HUH?!
OH, NO.
IF YOU THINK I'M A BOTHER, PLEASE LEAVE.
YOU HAVE THE MORNING SHIFT TOMORROW, DON'T YOU?
IT'LL BE TROUBLESOME FOR ME IF YOU COME IN LATE.
BUT IT'S OKAY IF YOU'RE NOT OPEN TO MY ADVICE.
AND WHAT HE SAYS ISN'T WRONG, SO I CAN'T REFUTE HIM!!
BUT HIS TONE OF VOICE?! IT'S SO PIERCING I DON'T EVEN WANNA HEAR IT!!
SEE? I TOLD YOU THERE'S A PRICKLY ONE WORKING HERE.
And I just got told off again!!

wink

BUT I'M YOUR SUPERVISOR. IT'S MY JOB TO TRAIN AND DISCIPLINE YOU!

Yonemura-san, my supervisor, is my senior from high school.

YONE-MURA-SAN!
THIS IS JUST...
IS THAT NEXT MONTH'S SCHEDULE?
But...
WHY? DOES IT BOTHER YOU?
WE CAN TALK WITHOUT BEING SO CLOSE.
WE'RE OVER IT, AREN'T WE?
...!
SO I'M LOOKING FOR A REPLACE-MENT.
YES... TAKAOKA SAID HE NEEDED A BREAK.
Alright, work!
HIGASHINO IS WORKING THE NIGHT SHIFT ALONE FOR THOSE 4 DAYS?

messy

messy

HUH?!

slip

YOU SHOULD PUT YOUR OWN NAME DOWN.

THEN, Oh, don't worry. don't worry.

HE'S ALWAYS BEEN SUCH A TOUCHY GUY.

...ARE SUPER-VISORS THAT FREE?

You'll come here every-day? Then go to the bank for me?

OF COURSE I'M NOT FREE. ARE YOU ASKING FOR IT?

...SORRY.

YOU'VE DONE THE DAY AND EVENING SHIFTS, SO IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO TRY THE NIGHT SHIFT.

I'LL HANDLE THE BANK TRAN-SACTIONS FOR YOU.

DON'T BACK OUT NOW, NEWBIE!

GYAAAAH!!

BUT BEING ALONE WITH HIGASHINO-KUN?!

WELL, I NEED TO DO IT BECAUSE IT'S MY JOB.

AH! THE DELIVERY FOR THE LUCKY DRAW CAMPAIGN WILL BE HERE TO-...
O-OH, SORRY.
THE DELIVERIES ARE COMING SOON. PLEASE TAKE OVER THE REGISTER, MANAGER.
IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US, AND I DON'T HAVE TIME TO TEACH A NEW GUY HOW TO SIGN FOR THE DELIVERIES.
I don't think I can do this peace-fully!!
I KNOW. LEAVE IT ALL TO ME.
MANAGER'S DIGNITY
...YES.
Please come again!
Welcome!
silence
Takaoka (22) Nice guy with glasses.
TAKAOKA, HAVE YOU ALWAYS WORKED IN SUCH CON-DITIONS?!
...HE DOESN'T EVEN SAY ANYTHING, IT'S SO AWKWARD...

determined

BUT I'M NOT YOUR TYPICAL SHY GUY!

I NEED TO BREAK DOWN HIS WALLS! STAYING LIKE THIS TILL MORNING IS TOO HARD!

rattle

rattle

!

GOOD MORNING.

...WHY IS HE LOOKING SO SERIOUSLY AT THE DESSERTS?

Oi, manager.

PLEASE PUT THEM IN THE BACK ROOM!

...PROBABLY?

glare

CAN I LEAVE THEM ALL IN THE BACK ROOM?

Y-YES, PROBABLY.

flinch

!!

THAT BOX CONTAINS THE LUCKY DRAW GOODS.

beep

beep

H-HEY... THE DAILY GOODS HAVE JUST ARRIVED, BUT THE CHILLED GOODS ARE ALREADY HERE!
YES... IT USUALLY HAPPENS.
Good morning!
!!
thump
I'm leaving.
rattle
rattle
SCARY!
Thanks for your hard work.
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, DON'T YOU?
...YES.
...THAT'S WHY IT'S SO ANNOYING WHEN THOSE FROM THE DAY SHIFT DON'T STOCK UP THE SHELVES AND THE FRIDGES.
I'm just here organizing everything, again and again.
I STILL HAVE 3 MORE NIGHT SHIFTS LEFT, PLEASE TEACH ME.
DON'T SAY THAT.
NO, YOU'LL JUST GET IN MY WAY.
WE CAN LEAVE THE RICE FOR THE DAY SHIFT TO HANDLE.
I'LL HELP, TOO.

THERE ARE LESS CUSTOMERS AT NIGHT, BUT LESS EMPLOYEES, TOO.

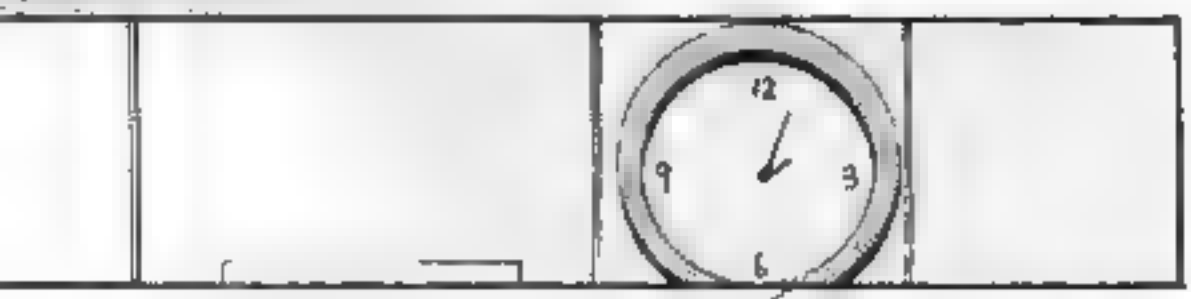
NO WONDER HE HAS THE TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THESE LITTLE THINGS.

IT'S TRUE...

.....

THE EVENING SHIFT GUYS MUST HAVE FORGOTTEN TO CHARGE IT. I NEED TO REMIND THEM AGAIN.

OH! MY GADGET IS OUT OF POWER.



On the other hand, my meal consisted of yaki-udon and two onigiris.

WHY DID HE FEEL THE NEED TO BE SLIM?

...I'LL TAKE A BREAK NOW.

OH! HE'S FINALLY TALKING ABOUT HIMSELF.

OKAY, SEE YOU!

Higashino-kun told me off for eating only carbs, so we got into a quarrel

Surpris ngly, the anxiety turned into enjoyment

DURING OUR BREAK, YOU SAID THAT YOU FELT THE NEED TO BE SLIM.
WHY WAS THAT?
he said 'okay'
So this gives me more time to chat with him.
A BAND?!
I THOUGHT LOOKING UNHEALTHY MEANT I LOOKED COOL.
...I USED TO BE IN A BAND.

Ah ha ha ha!
I SEE, THAT SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT!
DID YOU SING?
NO, I PLAYED THE GUITAR.
OOH, HOW NICE. I CAN'T PLAY ANY INSTRUMENTS MYSELF...
BUT I HURT MY FINGER,
AND COULDN'T PLAY WELL ANYMORE, SO I STOPPED.
.....
I WORKED PART-TIME AT A MOVING COMPANY THEN.
I GOT CUT UP BY A PEN KNIFE THAT WAS LEFT OUT.
gasp
OH, NO. THERE'S NO NEED TO SHOW ME!
...I SEE. SO THAT'S WHY.

HE'S ACTUALLY A NICE GUY!

YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST TOLD US! WE ALL ASSUMED YOU WERE JUST MEAN...

HUH?

THAT'S WHY YOU ALWAYS TOLD THE OTHERS OFF FOR NOT CLEANING UP AFTER THEMSELVES, BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T WANT THEM TO GET HURT.

IT WAS ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR CONCERN, HIGASHINO-KUN!

OH, NO.

I TOLD THEM OFF BECAUSE IT ANNOYED ME.

slap slap slap

IS THAT REALLY IT?!

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE ALWAYS TELLING ME OFF...

Huh?!

YOU TOO, MANAGER NISHIYAMA. I WAS SURPRISED AT HOW MUCH YOU LIKE TO TALK.

...I NOTICED THIS WHILE WE WERE HANDLING THE DELIVERIES, TOO. YOU REACT SURPRISINGLY FAST, HIGA-SHINO-KUN.

YOU USUALLY LOOK SO FRAZZLED AND IRRITATED.

THEN, PLEASE BUCK UP SO I CAN'T TELL YOU OFF ANYMORE.
NOW THAT YOU'VE WORKED THE NIGHT SHIFT, YOU UNDERSTAND, RIGHT?
HOW BUSY IT ACTUALLY IS..
huh?
What's this?
MANAGER?

SORRY.
FOR A MOMENT,
I JUST COULDN'T HEAR ANY-THING...
YOU'RE NOT LISTENING TO ME.
DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU OFF AGAIN?
ARE YOU OKAY?
That was a shock.
...THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK.
THANKS FOR TODAY! SEE YOU TONIGHT.
OH! I'M TAKING THE SUBWAY.
I-I-I'M OKAY! IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE STAYED UP ALL NIGHT!

THAT WAS AN HONEST SHOCK.
I'M AN IDIOT!
He's usually so guarded, but his smile was great.
ANYWAY, I'M STRAIGHT!
fidget
WHAT I HAD WITH YONEMURA-SAN WAS... JUST A FLING.
fidget
It caught me by surprise, my heart just skipped a beat.
No way no way!!
AN IN-JURY...
IT HAP-PENED TO ME, TOO.
Higashino-kun's inner self is nothing like the self he shows to everyone

DO YOUR BEST ON YOUR SHIFT!
Salute
I GOT YOU SOME RED BEAN DANGO AS A SAMPLE!
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK DURING THE NIGHT SHIFT, MANAGER.

THE PACKET OF JUICE THAT WAS LEFT IN THE WALK-IN FREEZER THREE DAYS AGO IS STILL THERE. WHOSE IS IT?
!!
rumble
rumble

HEY!
I need to follow up with this
GOOD MORNING!

HIGA-SHINO-KUN!
AND WE WON'T FORGET ABOUT IT AND LET IT EXPIRE!
I-I SEE, I'LL GET EVERYONE TO LABEL THEIR ITEMS FROM NOW ON! IT'LL BE EASIER FOR ALL OF US.
GOOD MORN-ING!
shake
shake
WHY DOES THIS HAPPEN EVERY DAY?

twitch
LET'S HAVE SOME RED BEAN DANGO!
Dango, lots of red Bean!
Sample

MANA-GER.
HMM?
OKAY!
DON'T LEAVE THE SCISSORS OUT ON THE REGISTER! PUT THEM BACK INTO THE DRAWER!
OH, HEY!
SO YOU ALSO LIKE JAPANESE DESSERTS?
...WHY NOT?
chuckle
chuckle
I LIKE SWEET THINGS.
HAVE SOME FIRST.
AH—
THIS IS
Ah ha ha!
THANK YOU.

getting rea y deep

Oh, his fingers are long.

clang
clang
DID YOU LOOK BENEATH THE RE-GISTER?
BUT THE 1 YEN ISN'T THE PROBLEM...
NO, IT'S 5001 YEN.
JUST 5000 YEN?
IT'S GONE!!
AH!
NO.
THAT'S WHERE WE KEEP THE REDEEMED COUPONS, RIGHT?
AH.
WE'RE MISSING 5000 YEN!!
Yay~!!
HERE IT IS!!

WOW, YOU SAVED ME!

WHO KNEW A BILL COULD FALL IN THERE...

MMN

Slump

THANK GOODNESS! DON'T DO THIS AGAIN! YOU GUYS GAVE ME A SCARE!

GO COUNT THE CASH AGAIN!

Okay! Sorryyy

THAT'S A RELIEF.

YOU'RE RIGHT!

Ha ha!

H-he's smiling...

IF ONLY EVERYONE WOULD PUT THE BILLS IN THE REGISTER CAREFULLY.

Now, he's totally fine with it.

In the past, he would have told us all off.

Isn't this better?

LET'S GET CHANGED QUICKLY.

blush

Th s troubl ng feeling that I've awakened

...YOU'RE RIGHT...

is just my imagination, right ?

NISHIYAMA-KUUN!

YOU'VE BECOME SUCH GOOD FRIENDS WITH HIGASHINO IN JUST FOUR DAYS?
WHAT SPELL DID YOU CAST ON HIM?
SPELL...?
I-I-I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING.
I'VE BEEN MAKING TRIPS TO THE BANK JUST FOR YOU, SO TELL ME.
I TOLD YOU, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING SPECIAL.
NO, YOU DEFINITELY DID SOME-THING
WHAT IS IT?
.....
REMEMBER HOW I BUSTED MY KNEE AND COULDN'T PLAY SOCCER ANYMORE?
OI, THAT'S AN OLD STORY.
I REMEMBER. THIS GUY DID A FOUL AND TACKLED YOU WHEN YOU WERE RUNNING AT FULL SPEED.
.....

...?! NOT REALLY.
!
my words carry such a strange nuance?
Huh?
...WELL,
SOMETHING SIMILAR HAPPENED TO HIGASHINO.
SO I JUST
Why is it that
WANTED TO SHOW THAT I APPRECIATED HIM...
SO YOU PITY HIM?

YONE-MURA-SA-...
I WAS THE ONE WHO HAD YOU FIRST.
HAGASHINO'S SO CUNNING.
I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BECOME SO INTERESTED IN HIGASHINO.

SHALL WE REMEMBER THE PAST?
HUH?!
WAIT!
SSH
...!

shut
Welcome!
GOOD MORNING, HIGASHINO!
yank

WAHAHA! YOUR SHIFT IS OVER, RIGHT? LET'S GET A DRINK.
THAT WAS A MEAN JOKE, YONE-MURA-SAN~
NO... MY SLEEP CYCLE IS MESSED UP, AND I'M
SUPER SLEEPY NOW...
flinch
shove
THAT...
H-HIGA-SHINO-KUN,
YOU'RE STARTING WORK ALREADY? IT'S STILL EARLY
GOING FOR A SMOKE.

It's Love, Manager | act.1 | End

「上海」です。
……中田アキラ
心臓、速すぎ。
ドキドキ

STOP
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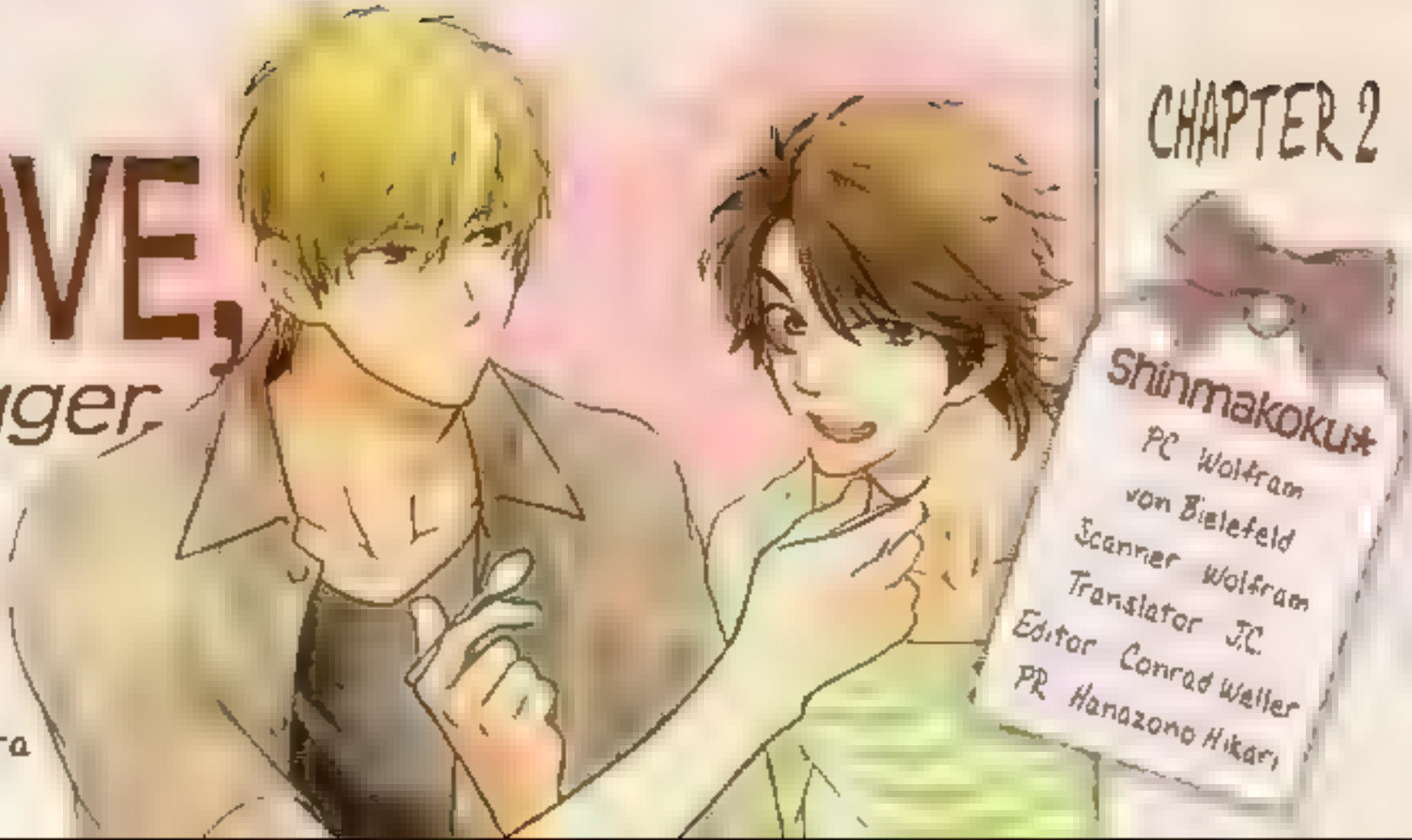
Remember to say THANK YOU.

It's LOVE, Manager

"Tenchou, KOI desu."

by Nakata Akira

CHAPTER 2



I've been a convenience store manager for more than a month now.
And just as I was on the verge of breaking through to my surly veteran part-timer,
thanks to my supervisor's prank,
we're back to square one
To make things worse,
SINCE YOU'RE DONE WITH WORK, HOW ABOUT YOU JUST LEAVE NOW?
I TOLD YOU, IT'LL BE MORE TROUBLESOME FOR ME IF YOU COME IN LATE FOR YOUR NEXT SHIFT
.....

the rejection I felt from his retreat ng back was more than a little upsett ng.

Frankly,

Well, I can understand his disgust.
AFTER SEEING THAT...
I GUESS NO ONE CAN BLAME HIM.
...IS HIGASHINO-SAN ALRIGHT?
HE SEEMS A LITTLE SCARY TODAY...
whisper
Then, I wish he'd at least try to understand me too, as I continue to cover the night shift.
YES, SO HE WANTS TO TAKE A BREAK FROM WORK.
TAKAOKA-SAN HAS APPENDICITIS?!
HMM, I THINK SO...
whisper
My full-timer is working non-stop shifts now, send me someone to help out.
Yes, tomorrow.
Damn this supervisor.
If only *that* hadn't happened, Higashino-kun's relationship with everyone might have gotten better, too.
Usually, she'd be complaining about him.
I'm going home first.
IS SHE ACTUALLY WORRIED?

YEAH~
I'D BE HERE IF I DIDN'T HAVE A MEETING.
BUT I'LL TAKE OVER THE NIGHT SHIFT FROM THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW...
REALLY?
SORRY FOR RELYING ON YOU SO MUCH.
NISHIYAMA!
I GOT SOMEONE COMING IN TO HELP TOMORROW.

GOOD MORNING.
I'M THE ONE SUPERVISOR YONEMURA REQUESTED FOR~
OH...
SLUMP
BUT AN ALL-DAY SHIFT IS REALLY TOO MUCH...!
Manager...

ACK

COME, I'LL GIVE YOU A QUICK TOUR.
NO PROBLEM.
SORRY FOR THE SUDDEN NOTICE.

ERM...
Ah! Maybe he's gone home already
He didn't eat any desserts today, so I couldn't even ta.k to h m about that.
I wasn't able to ta k to H.gashino-kun.

EVERY-ONE...

THEN, I GUESS I'LL BE OFF NOW...

tear

YOU LOOK REALLY PALE.

YONEMURA-SAN SAID HE'LL BE HERE IN THE AFTERNOON, SO I CAN MANAGE TILL THEN.

I'LL BE HERE TOO, MANAGER!

stretch

THINK OF HOW TO SPEAK TO HIGASHINO-KUN...

THEN WAKE UP.

TAKE A BATH.

sway

blink

blink

THE MORNING SUN IS SO DAZZLING ...

I GOT A NIGHT SHIFT LATER TONIGHT, GOTTA HEAD HOME QUICKLY AND SLEEP.

I KNEW IT.
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO COLLAPSE SOON, IT'S REALLY WORRYING...
I'LL WALK WITH YOU.
S.B.

...DO I REALLY LOOK THAT BAD?
Oh.
This is wonderful
PALE AND SICKLY.
nod
I HAVE A QUESTION FOR YOU.
HMM, WHAT IS IT?
HOW PATHETIC.
THAT'S WHY EVERYONE WAS SO KIND TO ME.
YOUR FACE.
MY FACE?
nod

ARE YOU GAY?
So direct!!
.....
.. SO YONEMURA-SAN WAS SPECIAL?
I don't remember feeling like this before.
But I really don't know.
I mean, I've been feeling strange these few days.
...I DON'T THINK I AM.

HUH?!
OH.
BYE.. DON'T OVER-SLEEP.
EH? WHERE DO YOU LIVE, HIGA-SHINO-KUN?
ON 4TH STREET.
Didn't you read my resume?
Why am I coming up with excuses so desperately?
WE'VE REACHED THE SUBWAY STATION.
SO...
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER SINCE FOREVER... AND ROMANCE HAPPENED BETWEEN US WHEN WE WERE STILL YOUNG.
I KNEW HE LIVED NEARBY SINCE HE DIDN'T APPLY FOR TRANS-PORTATION ALLOWANCE, BUT...
4TH STREET ...
THAT'S JUST ACROSS FROM OUR STORE.

Could it be,
Higashino-kun wanted to talk to me, too?
Do we feel the same way?
That means, the other day, too,
he went out of his way to walk with me?
EEEE...?!
WAIT WAIT WAIT WAIT!

He turned back thinking I was already gone

There.

turn

Sorry, I'm still here.

Sorry.

.....

AH.

I SENT HIM HOME.
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE STORE...
WHERE'S THE TEMP WORKER?
WOW, YOU'RE 30 MINUTES EARLY.
WHAT'S UP?
Deli Mart
I SEE...
WELL, UM,
I THINK I'LL JUST START EARLY THEN.
Besides, I don't think he'll be as scary as how he was yesterday.
But I'll be fine once we start work.
It's slightly embarrassing to see Higashino-kun now. .

YOU'RE IN HIGH SPIRITS TODAY.
YOU'RE JUST TOO EASY TO READ.
flap
touch
WHAT?!
YOU'VE NEVER BEEN A COWARD, ALWAYS SO AMIABLE
AND SO LIKABLE...
THAT WAS WHY I GOT YOU HERE TO DEAL WITH HIGASHINO.
!
rattle
HUH?!

YOU'RE SO SERIOUS.
UGH.....
!
BUT WHY? WHY DO YOU THINK OF IT AS A JOKE EVERYTIME WE GET CLOSE?
DON'T JOKE-...!
DID YOU SLEEP WITH HIGASHINO YESTERDAY?
I JUST DON'T WANT YOU TO BE TAKEN AWAY.

shove
creak
step
step
Hm...
...AH.
AREN'T YOU GONNA TELL US
NOT TO DO THIS IN THE WORKPLACE?

PLEASE DON'T DO THIS ANYWHERE.
I'LL COME AGAIN TOMORROW.
DELIVERIES WILL BE TOUGH TODAY, SO GET READY.

pat
MELON BREAD

DID MIZUSAWA MAKE A MISTAKE WITH THE ORDER?
THERE.
UUH!
crack
IT'S ENOUGH TO FEED AN ARMY!
WHAT IS THIS. ISN'T THIS TOO MUCH BREAD?
THAT'S TOO MUCH MELON BREAD TEN TIMES MORE THAN USUAL, I THINK.
HEY...
tumble
!
WATCH ...!

sigh

fall

clatter

I'M FINE, I'M FINE.

...UWAAH, SORRY!!

JUMP

thump

thump

thump

MY KNEE SOMETIMES BUCKLES.

...ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

YOUR KNEE?

YES, I GOT INJURED LONG AGO.

SO YONEMURA-SAN ALWAYS ASKS ME TO BE CAREFUL. BY THE WAY...

What was that?
..YEAH.
EH?
Hm
LET'S RESERVE THE TOP SHELF FOR MELON BREAD, MAKE IT LIKE A SPECIAL CAMPAIGN.
W-WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW?
...THEN PLEASE BE CAREFUL!
turn
I SEE...
OH! YONEMURA-SAN DID SAY THAT DELIVERIES WILL BE TOUGH.
HE MUST KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THIS..
I'M NOT A FAN OF DENSE FOODS LIKE BREAD AND COOKIES...
WON'T YOU BUY SOME?
YOU LIKE SWEET THINGS, DON'T YOU, HIGASHINO-KUN?
.....

...YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CHECKS ORDERS, RIGHT?
AS THE MANAGER, YOU SHOULD BE MORE THOROUGH NEXT TIME.
HUH...?
SORRY.
I KNOW...
...THIS
BANG
LET'S TALK!
is impossible!

.....
BROUGHT HERE BY FORCE.
WELCOME TO MY HOME.
OH, HERE'S SOME NEW DESSERT.
Push
YONEMURA-SAN MAY BE A PRANKSTER, BUT HE'S NOT A BAD PERSON.
TO BE HONEST, I DON'T LIKE THIS ATTITUDE!
...WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
WELL, HE'S JUST A FRIEND TO ME NOW...
WE WERE TOGETHER IN THE PAST, BUT NOW
WE'RE NOT...
Humph
.....

Jean

UMM, SO...

PHYSICALLY AND PSYCHOLOGICALLY

I'M REALLY HAPPY TO HAVE YOUR HELP, HIGASHINO-KUN.

THAT'S

WH-...?!

YOU TOLD ME YOU WEREN'T GAY BACK THEN, HOW ABOUT NOW?

HUH?!

BECAUSE... I'VE BEEN UNABLE TO [redacted] THIS SITUATION.

I WISH YOU HAD TOLD ME ALL OF THIS [redacted]

THEN WE COULD HAVE TALKED...

WHEN I SAW YOU BEING PINNED DOWN BY YONEMURA-SAN...
...SINCE WHEN?
...I NEVER THOUGHT I WAS, MANAGER.
flomp
...ARE YOU GAY, HIGASHINO-KUN?
THAT'S ...
A LITTLE MEAN... DON'T BE A TEASE!
DOES THIS MAKE YOU REMEMBER THE "PAST"?
.....
...!!

WHA-
MMN.
...I WANT TO WRITE OVER YOUR PAST.
SWEET...
Remem-
bering.

...ARE YOU CONCERNED
there's no t me for that now.
ABOUT MY SCAR?
...YES.
I can still escape by saying that that's all I'm concerned about.
IS THAT OKAY?
I WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP IF WE CONTINUE.
His scar
His love for sweet foods.

But these feelings aren't a mistake...

IT'S OKAY...

ACTU-ALLY...
UHM.
.. I'M NOT
USED TO THIS EITHER.
I'M NOT USED TO DOING THIS AT ALL.
SO BE GENTLE.
...AH.
I-
I SEE.
UUH ...!
THRUST

NGH!
..UH!
HURTS..
rrrrr
rrrrr
Yonemura-san
rrrrr
...AH!
rrrrr
rrrrr
cough
pant
thrust
pant
thrust
EEEK!
jerk
THRUST

thrust
thrust
HIGA... SHINO...
...AAH!
thrust
AH!
AH!
WAIT...
rrrrrr
sway
...GH!
gasp
AH.
rrrrrr
HAA...
AH!
sway
I CAN'T!
...!
...WHY?
HEY...!
TELL ME OFF LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO!
pant
BECAUSE YOUR HONESTY TURNS ME ON...!
tighten
pant
RIGHT NOW!
pant

spurt
...AAH!
!!
pant
...MANA-GER,
YOU'RE TOO HOT...
...UH!
rrrrr
rrrr
rrrrr
rrrr
beep
...HELLO?
IDIOT! WHERE ARE YOU?!
sit
カリ
twitch

YOU JUST FINISHED YOUR NIGHT SHIFT, SHOULDN'T YOU BE SLEEPING?

AH...

YONEMURA-SAN..

ANYWAY, DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO ASSIGN THE LAST SHIFT TO SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THE CODE FOR THE CASHBOX?

He had to call me to ask for it.

WHAT...?

OH... SORRY.

...NGH!

grab

Let me go!

YOU TOLD ME "NO", BUT I'M STILL GONNA PUT YOUR NAME UP TO BECOME A FULL-TIMER...

cough cough

HEY...!

LET ME GO.

OI, HIGA-SHINO,

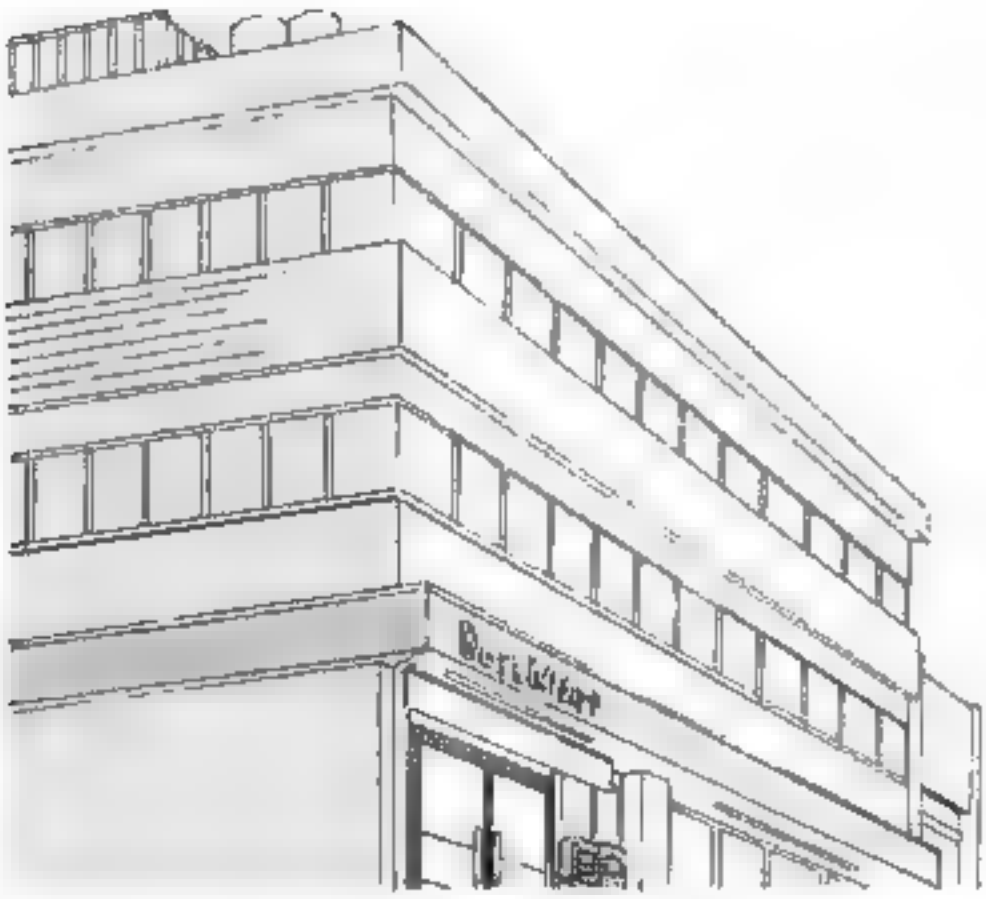
I SEE.

THERE'S SOMEONE I CAN WORK WITH NOW.

DO AS YOU PLEASE.

ARGH! HOW ANNOY-ING!

...I THINK



things will start to get *worse* from now on...

It's Love, Manager. | act.2 | End

You're 21?
Liar.
Why would I lie about that?
← Almost 30.

STOP
You will be seeing the CREDIT PAGE next!
These are the people who made it possible
for you to read this story IN ENGLISH. ^^
Remember to say THANK YOU.

It's LOVE, Manager.

"Tenchou, KOI desu."

by. Nakata Akira

CHAPTER 3

Shinmakoku*
PC Wolfram von Bielefeld
Scanner Wolfram
Translator J.C.
Editor Conrad Weller
PR Hanazono Hikari

It's Love, Manager. Yonemura's Shift act.1

HEY, HIGA-SHINO...

...FUH!
...HE MOVED ANYTIME HE WANTED TO. AND HE WAS SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT HE REALLY ENJOYED IT
.....
rattle
rattle
rattle
Fufufu...
HOW ANNOY-ING...
BUT I CAN IMAGINE IT. INTERESTING.
HE'S NEVER EXPERIENCED THAT BEFORE, RIGHT?
...THAT MEANS
I work for a certain convenience store chain as a supervisor, managing a number of stores that are put under my charge.
I GUESS.
THERE HE GOES, ALL MATURE-SOUNDING.

NISHIYAMA, OTSUKARE.

HIGASHINO-KUN, YONEMURA-SAN!

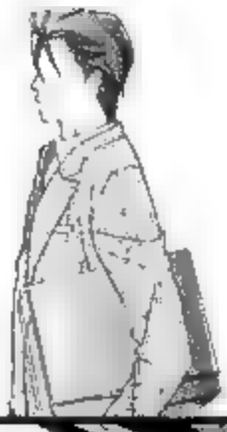
Nishiyama, the manager at a store I supervise,

and Higashino, the competent but problematic part-timer, had done the deed a few days ago.

but he was unexpectedly snatched away by Higashino.

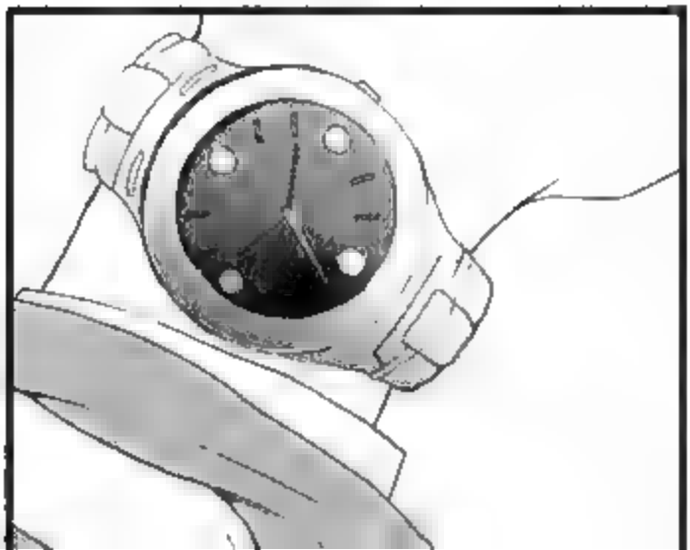
Nishiyama was my junior at high school, and I've been watching over him since then. I like him

...I'm happy as long as Nishiyama is enjoying himself



That's all I want.

THAT NEW NIGHT SHIFT GUY, ANDOU,
HOW IS HE?
SEEMS NICE. HE LEARNS QUICKLY
I'LL LET HIM AND YOSHIYUKI HANDLE THE STORE FROM TOMORROW ON.
HMM?
YOSHI-YUKI?
OH, HE MEANS HIGASHINO.
HOW ANNOYING...



I can't hand Nishiyama to you if you act like that,

Higashino.

I'M LATE.
IS NISHIYAMA STILL IN?

ah.

It hurts more than I thought it would.

OH, ANDOU-KUN!
MORNING—
rustle
step

WHAT WAS THAT...?
pant
pant

RUNNING AWAY, HOW PATHETIC...
...BUT I REALLY DON'T WANT TO FACE THEM NOW.
sigh

I promised I would come, so I should
But
CeriMart

A-ALRIGHT..
glance

LOOK AT THE DATES PROPERLY.
THAT'S NOT IT.

NISHI-YAMA.
WHAT DID YOU TELL ME OVER THE PHONE?
WHISPER
THEY'RE GETTING ALONG FINE.
Maybe because I'm here
WHISPER
...HMM...
I don't think Higashino-kun cares.
BUT DOESN'T SOMETHING SEEM STRANGE?
peek
peek
YOU'RE RIGHT, HE KEEPS LOOKING OVER AT US...
ANDOU!
ARE YOU FEELING OKAY?
HUH?!
WELL... I GUESS...

TELL ME IF THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG.
WE NEED ALL THE NIGHT SHIFTERS WE CAN GET, SO YOU'RE IMPORTANT TO US, ANDOU.
YOU'RE NOT FEELING UPSET, ARE YOU?
Fighting and uncontrollable?

ARE MANAGER AND HIGASHINO-KUN TOGETHER?
YES?
. THEN, I HAVE A QUESTION.

I SAW THEM WHEN I CAME TO WORK...

puff

THOSE IDIOTS... MAKING OUT OUTSIDE THE STORE!!

...WHAT IF THEY ARE?

IS THAT DISGUSTING?

I'M... MORE CONCERNED
ABOUT YONEMURA-SAN.
NO, NOT REALLY.
IT'S JUST...
JUST?
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

"I'M MORE CONCERNED..."
Did he see me running away?
Even so, I'm not some kid who can't control his emotions while at work.
So why must he be worried about me?
I'M GOING BACK INSIDE.
This isn't a joking matter
What is he talking about?
PSSSH
I DON'T CARE.
I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN ABOUT THEM.

I told myself that it was nothing to fuss over
But I was shocked by the intensity of Andou's gaze. like he could see through me.
After that, I didn't visit the store for 3 days

HE DID GET INTO AN ARGUMENT WITH HIGA-SHINO-SAN...
...DID HE RESIGN?
THAT'S RIGHT! HE DOESN'T ANSWER MY CALLS, EITHER.
...ANDOU DIDN'T TURN UP?!
DID YOU HEAR FROM HIM, YONEMURA-SAN?!
NO...
.....
RRR
OH!
YES, THIS IS THE 3RD STREET STORE!
OH, AH! YES, I'M THE MANAGER...
HUH?
THE POLICE?!

...THANK YOU.
Here.
HIS FAMILY IS LIVING FAR AWAY, SO...
YONEMURA-SAN...
!
Just show me your I/C, and sign here.
I CAN TAKE HIM HOME, CAN'T I?
YES, THE INCIDENT WASN'T HIS FAULT.
THERE ARE NO WINNERS IN A FIGHT, YOU KNOW?
HA HA HA.

HEY, NISHI-YAMA.
YES, EVERYTHING'S FINE. I'LL SEND HIM HOME TODAY.
YES,
THAT'S RIGHT.
THANKS, BYE.
SO
WHAT DID YOU DO?
...A FRIEND ASKED ME TO FIX HIS GUITAR...
AS A SHOW OF GRATITUDE, HE INVITED ME OUT FOR A MEAL.
WE WERE HEADING TO A RESTAURANT NEARBY ..

...MY FRIEND
WAS HAPPY, BUT...
sniff
clench
I BROKE MY PHONE TOO, SO I COULDN'T CALL...
...SO THAT GUY STARTED A FIGHT BY BREAKING THE GUITAR
AND THERE WERE BYSTANDERS WHO TESTIFIED? THAT'S GOOD.

wipe
...!
drip
drip
pat
pat

IT'S NOTHING MUCH.
OH, THIS IS MY HOME.
ANYWAY, YOU CAN FIX GUITARS? THAT'S AWESOME.

OUCH!
CRUNCH
YEAH.....
PLEASE TAKE A SEAT.
SORRY FOR THE MESS.

OOH...
TO MAKE DIFFERENT SOUNDS.
IT'S PLACED INSIDE A GUITAR.

WHAT'S THIS?

YOU REALLY LIKE GUITARS, HUH?
There are different types.
I want to become an electric guitar craftsman.
Isn't a guitar empty inside?
Cra-...?
Hmph.

THAT FRIEND
WHOSE GUITAR WAS BROKEN...
AND ABOUT GUITARS.
SORRY.
OH.
SORRY, I'VE JUST BEEN TALKING ABOUT MYSELF...
YOU'LL MAKE A NEW ONE FOR HIM SOMEDAY, RIGHT?

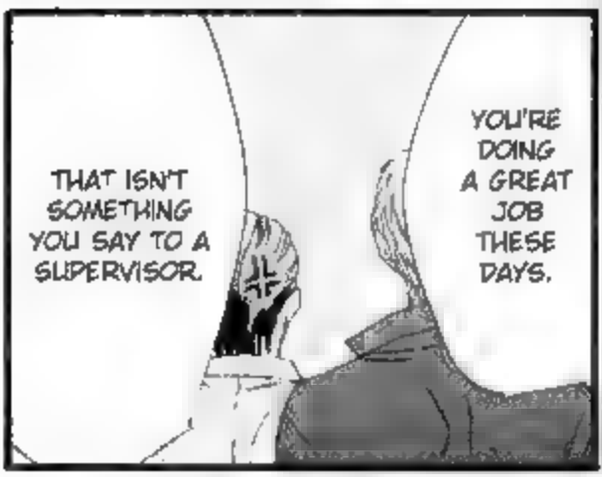
YOU KNOW,
YOU REMIND ME OF NISHI-YAMA.
LONG AGO... HE STOPPED BEING ABLE TO CHASE HIS DREAMS, SO HE CRIED AND CRIED. .
BACK THEN, I COULD ONLY STAY BY HIS SIDE.
THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON.
BUT I FEEL LIKE GIVING YOU THE SUPPORT THAT I WASN'T ABLE TO GIVE TO HIM.
...YOU STILL CAN'T GIVE NISHIYAMA-SAN UP,
CAN YOU?

PUSH
...LIKE, WHY WOULD HE CHOOSE HIGASHINO-SAN OVER SOMEONE WHO CARES SO MUCH FOR HIM?
YOU MAY NOT HAVE NOTICED IT, YONEMURA-SAN,
BUT YOU SEEM REALLY UPSET WHENEVER YOU LOOK AT MANAGER.

I'M LEAVING!
He knows how I feel
I...
...has he always known?

Anyway, what was he trying to do?

Could it be...?



HOW ANNOYING...
HE USUALLY PUT ON SUCH A SOUR LOOK WHEN HE WORKED WITH YOU.
BUT HIS EYES SPARKLED WHEN HE TALKED ABOUT GUITARS!
HE WANTS TO BECOME A CRAFTSMAN.
HE REMINDS ME OF NISHIYAMA WHEN HE WAS YOUNGER.
WOW...
GUITARS?
THERE, YOU'RE MAKING THAT FACE AGAIN.
.....

.....
WON'T HE BE SAD?
YOU KNOW NISHIYAMA ISN'T THE TYPE OF GUY WHO PLAYS AROUND, DON'T YOU?
SO I'M PUTTING IN A REQUEST TO MOVE TO ANOTHER AREA.

I MEAN ANDOU.
ARE YOU BEING SARCASTIC?
HUH? NISHIYAMA?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ANDOU?
I CAN TELL. YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO HIDE IT.
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE GIVING UP ON MANAGE-...
SHUT UP!
clatter
I HAVE NO FEELINGS WHATSOEVER FOR ANDOU!
step

...AH?
...A-
ANDOU!!

STOP
You will be seeing the CREDIT PAGE next!
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for you to read this story IN ENGLISH. ^^
Remember to say THANK YOU.

It's LOVE, Manager

"Tenchou, KOI desu."

by. Nakata Akira

CHAPTER 4

Shinmakoku*
PC Wolfram von Bielefeld
Scanner Wolfram
Translator J.C.
Editor Conrad Weller
PR Hanazono Hikari

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY WHEN YOU CATCH HIM?
I'LL GO AND BRING HIM BACK. PLEASE LEAVE BEFORE WE RETURN.

He's right.

there's nothing I can say to Andou now

YONEMURA, ABOUT THE NEW STORE OPENING NEXT MONTH...

.....

Everything's just falling into place.

This may be the perfect chance

for me, and for Nishiyama

I'VE BEEN COMING HERE TOO MUCH.
BUT WE'RE JUST GETTING ON OUR FEET WITH YOUR EXTRA HELP!
YEAH, IT'S A SUDDEN DECISION.
YOU'RE TRANSFERRING?!
gasp
ANYWAY, YOU'RE MORE THAN CAPABLE OF DOING THIS.
SO, I'M LEAVING.
NOW? THAT'S FAST.
.....?

NISHI-YAMA,

YOU SHOULD RELY ON THOSE CLOSE TO YOU.

DEVIL?

IT'S NOTHING. BYE.

Creak

OW,

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL.

I THOUGHT THAT GUY WAS GOOD FOR NOTHING EXCEPT WORK.

BUT HE IS DEFINITELY VERY RECEPTIVE.

Maybe I should have asked him if Andou was alright
His name is still on the duty roster so Hagashino did a good job in getting him back
Much better than I would have.

...YONE-MURA-SAN.

...!
THIS KID REALLY KNOWS HOW TO SCARE ME.
Hump
Hump
...I
...OI, ANDOU.
!
I'M SORRY ABOUT THE OTHER DAY.
ANYWAY, PLEASE FORGET WHAT I SAID, I DIDN'T MEAN IT.

WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE THIS, YONEMURA-SAN?
...IT'S SO ANNOYING.

If I leave things unsettled between us,
ANNOY-ING...?
MAYBE I AM.
I couldn't even explain myself.
ATM
maybe you'll lose interest in me

IT'S SO BUSY HERE IN THE EVENING...
BECAUSE THERE'S A COLLEGE AND A TECHNICAL SCHOOL NEARBY.
WE CAN'T EVEN KEEP THE SHELVES STOCKED.
I'LL GO HELP OUT.
Thank you.
OPEN
LOTS OF CUSTOMERS WITH INSTRUMENTS.
IS THERE A MUSIC SCHOOL NEARBY, TOO...?

38.0
.. 38 DEGREES...
Those guitars
make me think of Andou.
BUT...
PLEASE GO HOME TODAY, I'LL TAKE OVER YOUR NIGHT SHIFT.
OBVIOUSLY, WE CAN'T LET A SICK PERSON HANDLE THE FOOD IN THE STORE.
I'LL ASK YONEMURA... NO, THE NEW SUPERVISOR IF HE CAN GET A TEMP WORKER IN.
THEN TOMOR-ROW, TOO...
YOU KNOW.

!!
UGH...
dizzy dizzy
.. NEW SUPER-VISOR?
...YONEMURA-SAN'S TRANSFERRED TO A NEW STORE
HE'S REALLY...
ANNOYING...

I HAVE...
FEELINGS FOR HIM...
...I THINK
BUT HE PROBABLY...
YEAH.
BUT HE ANNOYS ME SO MUCH...
YONEMURA-SAN IS WORRIED, TOO.
HE TOLD ME TO BRING YOU BACK.
YOU CAN TALK TO HIM ONCE YOU'VE CALMED DOWN.
.....!!
WE'LL BE IN TROUBLE IF WE LOSE A NIGHT SHIFTER.
THEN LEAVE IT
So let's head back.

.....
YOU TALK LIKE THE DEVIL, BUT I'M THANKFUL FOR YOUR ADVICE, HIGASHINO-SAN.
..GOOD.
I'm calmer now.
I WAS FIDDLING WITH GUITARS AT HOME...
OH...
THAT WOUND.
WHEN I'M AT HOME..
I NEED TO KEEP MYSELF OCCUPIED TO FEEL CALM.

...I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT YONEMURA-SAN,
BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SO WORKED UP BEFORE.
IF HE REALLY DIDN'T FEEL ANYTHING FOR YOU, HE WOULDN'T HAVE REACTED THAT WAY.
BUT,
...I THINK SO, TOO.
IF YOU ASK ME IF HE'S GOING TO DO ANYTHING TO FIX IT,
MY ANSWER IS
...A DEFINITE NO.

THANK YOU...

THE NEW SUPERVISOR WILL COME IN TOMORROW.

EITHER WAY, GO HOME AND GET SOME SLEEP.

YEAH.

It's a 3-day event, so tomorrow's the last day.

When will this opening sale finish?

The karaage is on sale.

NO PROBLEM.
AH!
AND I'M GETTING ALONG WELL WITH HIGASHINO-KUN!
YES, THANK YOU FOR TODAY!
SO, WE'LL START COMING IN AT NORMAL HOURS TOMORROW,
FROM THE AFTERNOON?
Phew...
I didn't want to look too professional when wearing the uniform.
Why did you let your hair down?
IT'S A GOOD EXPERIENCE.
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME HANDLING A NEW STORE.
HOW IS NISHIYAMA'S STORE DOING?
HUH?
I WORKED THE NIGHT SHIFT YESTERDAY TO COVER FOR ANDOU-KUN.
HIGASHINO-KUN RECOMMENDED SOME CAKE SHOPS TO ME.

WHY DIDN'T ANDOU WORK?
I THINK HE WAS DOWN WITH A FEVER...
NISHIYAMA-KUN CALLED ME IN A PANIC, SO I PROMISED TO GO IN.
...I KNEW IT.
YOU SHOULD DROP IN SOMEDAY.
MAYBE.
Nishiyama...
you're doing so well without me.

...DAMMIT.
...WAS IT MY FAULT?
MAYBE HE'S FINALLY GROWING UP.
ANDOU HAS A FEVER?
Thanks for today.
I'm stopping here for a smoke.

ping
I'm still worried about Andou.
turn
flinch

YONEMURA-SAN?

.....

I GOT YOUR ADDRESS FROM MANAGER...

DO YOU ALWAYS COME HOME SO LATE?

I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU FOR A MOMENT.

YOU LOOK MUCH YOUNGER WITH YOUR HAIR DOWN, YONEMURA-SAN.

THAT'S WHY I COMB IT UP

I DON'T WANT PEOPLE TO THINK I'M STILL A COLLEGE STUDENT.

rattle rattle

I WANT YOUR REASSURANCE.
...WHY ARE YOU HERE?
JUST TO CHAT?
.....
...PEOPLE USED TO THINK I'M A JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT,
SO I ALWAYS GOT A DISCOUNT WHEN BUYING MOVIE TICKETS.
rattle
...OH.

SINCE YOU TRANSFERRED,
I HAVEN'T HAD ANY CHANCE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE I'M JUST A PART-TIMER, BUT THAT'S SO LONELY.
...HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

SO I CAME HERE.
SO WHAT IS IT YOU WANT?
...!
ANYWAY, YOU LOOK PALE ARE YOU EATING WELL?
COME IN.

YOU'RE NOT CHASING ME AWAY?
click
...I'VE NO CHOICE, YOU'RE ALREADY HERE.
BY THE WAY, I HEARD YOU'RE TAKING A BREAK FROM WORK.
...YOU'RE SO SOFT-HEARTED!!
HUH?!
WHY ARE YOU SO SOFT-HEARTED? ARE YOU COTTON?
I'M NOT COTTON!
IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO ACCEPT MY FEELINGS, THEN STOP BEING GENTLE AND PUSH ME AWAY!!

HAVE YOU ALWAYS
BEEN SO INDECISIVE ABOUT EVERYTHING?
...WHAT?!
YOU KNOW,
. THAT'S ENOUGH.
...AH.
WITH THE MANAGER, TOO...

...SO I BECAME INTERESTED IN YOU,
I'VE FELT SO FREE SINCE HE FOUND SOMEONE ELSE TO RELY ON.
...!
BECAUSE I THOUGHT HE'D GOTTEN BORED OF ME.
HEY!
PUSH

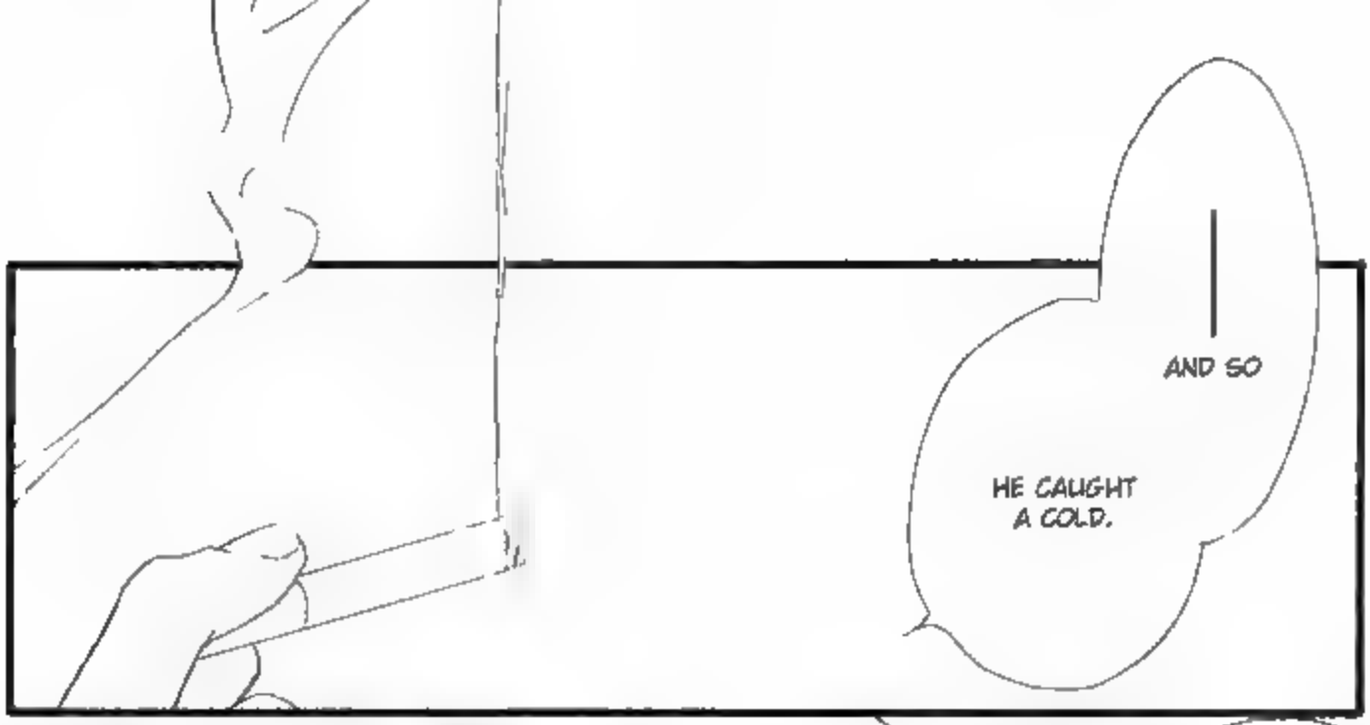
NGH...

...I NEEDED TO DO THAT...
BECAUSE ANYONE LESS PERSISTENT THAN I AM WOULD NEVER HAVE GOTTEN THROUGH TO YOU!

...YOU CAN PUNCH ME IF I'M WRONG.
Sigh
HAAH
GO AHEAD.
WHY WOULD I PUNCH YOU, IDIOT?
Pat
Pat

YOU DID EVERYTHING TO GET TO ME.
THERE, YOU DID IT AGAIN...
!
YOU'RE A WEIRD ONE.
YES, I APOLOGIZE.
WILL MAKE ME IRRESISTABLE TO YOU.
MY WEIRDNESS
...APOLOGY ACCEPTED.

YUP!
blush
I SEE.
AH!
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU'RE TAKING A BREAK FROM WORK BECAUSE YOU HAVE A FEVER, RIGHT?
BUT YOU CAME HERE.
bump
...I'M ACTUALLY
TOO WEAK TO GO TO WORK TODA-...
ANDOU?!


AND SO
HE CAUGHT A COLD.

I'LL TRY.
YOU'RE PARTLY TO BLAME.
CAN YOU PLEASE SETTLE THIS PROBLEM SOON?
.....

PLEASE STOP MAKING IT HARD FOR US NIGHT SHIFTERS.
HE WAS CONFINED TO THE BED THE ENTIRE DAY.
SHUT UP.

HIGASHINO-SAN!
REALLY?
..YOU DO SEEM IN A BETTER MOOD.

YONEMURA-SAN!
YONEMURA-SAN, I'VE PUT A BOX OF YOUR CIGARETTES IN MY BAG.
IT'S TIME.
OH!
OH, THANKS.
ARE YOU LEAVING?
10 MINUTES AGO? I WENT STRAIGHT TO THE BACK HERE TO SMOKE.
W-WHEN DID YOU GET HERE?
Y-YES...

AS EXPECTED OF MY JUNIOR.

YOU'RE DOING REALLY WELL.

...YO-

MIZU-SAWA-SAN!
.....
Oooh...
dash
LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU'LL WEAR OUR UNIFORM AGAIN, I'LL GO VISIT YOU.
NO.
ALRIGHT, I'M HEADING BACK. GOTTA WORK AGAIN TOMORROW.
crack

Huh?!
Come look.
MANA-GER,
THERE'S A PROBLEM WITH THE DELIVERIES.
YOU SUCK.
Can't hear you-
That'll be 130 yen.
I'll wait outside for you-
Sorry!
Don't run in the store.

It's Love, Manager. | Yonemura's shift | act.2 | End

"Wearing 2 sets of clothes...
Letting my hair down...
Will I still give out a good impression?"

...he keeps thinking.

STOP
You will be seeing the CREDIT PAGE next!
These are the people who made it possible
for you to read this story IN ENGLISH. ^^
Remember to say THANK YOU.

It's LOVE, Manager

"Tenchou, KOI desu."

by. Nakata Akira

CHAPTER 5

Shinmakoku*
PC Wolfram von Bielefeld
Scanner Wolfram
Translator J.C.
Editor Conrad Weller
PR Hanazono Hikari

I'll make you happy, so get ready.
MELON BREAD

Lately, a young man has been following me around.
MIZUSAWA-SAN~!
raise
...COME ON!
GRAB
Ooh-
clap
IPPON!
clap
clap
SLAM
And everyday I send him flying.

AND I WON'T GIVE UP, I TOLD YOU THAT!
kneel
kneel
I LIKE YOU! SO PLEASE BE MY BOYFRIEND!
NO.
..YOSHI-IKE,
DON'T YOU GET TIRED OF DOING THIS EVERYDAY?
wipe
wipe
NEVER!!
It's been like this
since 2 weeks ago.
BECAUSE I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU.
Ach
AAH~ ANOTHER BLUNT ANSWER TODAY~
BUT WHY?

grumble rumble
growl
...WHAT WAS THAT? HIS STOMACH? THAT'S AMAZING.
And he's all beaten up
grumble
I ordered too much so I bought some of it.
It was after I made a mistake in ordering melon bread at the store I work at.
rustle
rustle
!
.....
rustle
After giving h m the bread, I left.
A few days ater.
OH!
"HEY,"
"WANT SOME?"

COLLEGE

we met by coincidence again.

I LIKE YOU!

And he confessed his love.

YOU'RE THE MELON BREAD GUY!

I'M YOSHIKE, A FRESHMAN!

grab

I LIKE YOU!

SLAM

I grabbed him by force and slammed him onto the ground.

Surprisingly, Yoshike took it really well.

And since then, he's been coming back for the same thing everyday.

← Trained in judo.

I made a mistake on the order that day because I suffered a break-up.

And I've yet to get over that

...THAT WAS A FIRST.
surprise
I CAN'T LET MYSELF BE SENT FLYING EVERYDAY.

WAIT!
block

HUH? SO YOU'LL BE MY BOYFRIEND?
I NEVER SAID THAT. ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING?

I ONLY MEANT I WON'T SEND YOU FLYING TODAY.
Haha.
IDIOT.

...STOP RIGHT THERE!
I SPENT LAST NIGHT STUDYING, SO I'M REALLY TIRED NOW.

...EVEN IF YOU CONTINUE LIKE THIS, I WON'T GET TOGETHER WITH YOU.

cough

DAMMIT.

WHY DO YOU LIKE ME ANYWAY?

WHY NOT?

Ach.

HUH?
MY EX.
...I DIDN'T NEED TO HIDE LIKE THIS.
?
WHO WAS THAT?
HE DUMPED YOU?!
HE DUMPED ME A WHILE AGO.
HUH?!
rustle
rustle
HUH?
HUH?
WITH THAT DRAMATIC REASON, HE DUMPED ME.
BUT HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND ME, SAID HE COULDN'T TRUST THAT I LOVED HIM.
...I WANTED TO MAKE HIM HAPPY.
I EVEN PLANNED OUT A FUTURE TOGETHER.

...BUT HE SEEMS SO NICE.
SO YOU CAN'T FORGET HIM?
.....
I THINK HE MISSED SOMETHING CRUCIAL, THOUGH.
HUH?
I MEAN, YOU REALLY LOVED HIM, DIDN'T YOU, MIZUSAWA-SAN?
IF HE WANTED TO UNDERSTAND YOU, ALL HE HAD TO DO WAS ASK.

...IT'S NOT THAT EASY.
THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO CAN'T GIVE YOU AN ANSWER EVEN IF YOU ASK.
IF I WERE HIM, I WOULD HAVE ASKED OUTRIGHT,
BECAUSE SOME PEOPLE IN THE WORLD ARE JUST HARDER TO UNDERSTAND.

!?
BUT YOU DON'T HATE ME!
REALLY? BUT I REJECT YOUR ADVANCES VERY CLEARLY
accuse
BY THE WAY, YOU'RE DEFINITELY THE *HARD-TO-UNDERSTAND* TYPE, MIZUSAWA-SAN.

.....
I USED TO THINK THAT I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE WITH YOU,
BUT YOU NEVER REALLY IGNORED ME!
I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THAT.

I...

I WANT TO MAKE YOU HAPPY.
I'M GLAD TO HEAR HIM SAY THIS, BUT...
IF WE GET TOGETHER...
YES?
I TALK TOO MUCH, AND YOU DON'T LIKE TO TALK AT ALL, SO WE BALANCE EACH OTHER OUT.
I THINK WE'RE QUITE COMPATIBLE!
SO HE DOES KNOW ME...

I'M THE SEME, OKAY?
I KNOW, THAT'S WHY I ASKED.
WHAAAT?!
I'M THE SAME.
...BUT I'M THE TYPE WHO WANTS TO GIVE LOVE
WITH MY HEART AND BODY!

It's been a few days,
and Yoshioke hasn't shown up.
how I envy him.
To be able to speak his mind so freely,
TO BE TOGETHER, WE HAVE TO AGREE ON THAT.
MIZU-SAWA.
THESE DAYS WITHOUT HIM AROUND ARE SO QUIET...
MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE TOLD HIM THAT SOONER?
tap
tap

I'VE SEEN YOU FLIRTING WITH A FRESHMAN LATELY.
HE'S REALLY ENERGETIC.
I WASN'T REALLY FLIRTING WITH HIM.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE BROKE UP.
...INO-KAWA.

Did I really like having Yoshiike around?
However,
I do feel something is missing in these quiet days.
NOT REALLY ...
BUT YOU ENJOYED IT, DIDN'T YOU?

saying that lifted a burden off of me.
To tell him that I have no regrets.
And Inokawa smiled too, which made me glad.
Somehow.
I THINK,
IT'S REALLY NICE TO BE ABLE TO RELAX AROUND YOU,
INOKAWA.
Maybe this happened thanks to Yoshi ke
Next time I see him. I should cal out to him,
MIZUSAWA-SAN~!
and say thank you

HAVE!
POUNCE!
grab
I...!
CAMPUS
Ooh...
clap clap
struggle
struggle
clap clap
DECIDED!
sigh
WHAT HAVE YOU DECIDED?
OH!
thump
...HUH? I CAUGHT YOU!
YEAH...
cough

WHACK

YOU'RE TOO LOUD!

I'VE DECIDED TO BECOME YOUR UK-

WELL, JUST FOR YOUR SAKE, MIZUSAWA-SAN.

cough

Wha-

ACK.

faint

IN THE END I HAD TO BRING HIM TO MY HOME, BUT...

what happen-ed...?

...Uh...
Everyt me I reject him.
he keeps coming back...

I NEVER WOULD HAVE EXPECTED THAT.
HE DID SAY HE WAS READY TO BE MY UKE.

ARE YOU OKAY, YOSHIIKE?
SORRY, I HIT YOU TOO HARD.
.....

pull
I'M ALRIGHT.

НЕНЕН–

.....

THERE!

LOOK, ALL THESE ARE BRUISES I GOT FROM HIM...
I ALWAYS HAVE FIGHTS WITH DAD AT HOME...
I'M REALLY OKAY!

REALLY?

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE STRONG!

IT'S IRONIC THAT I'M A JUDO INSTRUCTOR'S SON!

THAT'S RIGHT, HE WAS ALL BEATEN UP WHEN I FIRST MET HIM.

YES, MY DAD WORKS AT MIKI JUDO GYM...

...SO YOU'RE PRETTY WEAK.

I REMEMBER SLAMMING YOU INTO THE GROUND MANY TIMES.

OH YEAH, THERE IS A YOSHIIKE-SENSEI.

NO, I PRACTICED AT HOME.

I ALWAYS GET BEATEN UP, SO SOMETIMES I GET FRUSTRATED AND RUN AWAY FROM HOME! LIKE TODAY!

?!

...THAT'S MY DOJO.

SO YOU GO THERE, TOO?

FUFU-
YOU'RE SO SIMILAR.
ha! ha! ha! ha!
SO HE'S HIS SON...
YOSHIKE SENSEI
MIZU-SAWA-SAN?
...MIZUSAWA-SAN.

YOUR HAIR IS AS SOFT AS MELON BREAD.
IT'S JUST THAT... YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU'D DISAPPEAR ANY SECOND.
WHEN I FIRST SAW YOU,
I JUST... WANTED TO PROTECT YOU.
Get your heart fired up
BUT NOW, YOU SEEM LESS BURDENED
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

"THE NEXT TIME WE MEET,
I'LL SAY THANK YOU."
!
...YES.
THE BURDEN HAS FINALLY GONE.

SINCE THEN, I'VE FALLEN FOR YOU MORE AND MORE EACH DAY.
...I THINK IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.

YOU'RE STRONG!
AND SO SKILLED!
UH.....
thump
thump
thump

grip
flop
.....!
CAN'T MOVE.
Why is he.
...I THOUGHT YOU'D DECIDED TO BE LIKE?
I RETRACT MY DECISION.

MM...
OH, NO...
I LOVE YOU,
MIZUSAWA-SAN.
I LOVE YOU.
DO YOU KNOW HOW YOU LOOK RIGHT NOW, MIZUSAWA-SAN?
...able to see through me so easily?

YOU TALK TOO MUCH...
I LOV-
...JUST SHUT UP.
I'M SPEAKING FOR THE BOTH OF US,
SINCE YOU'RE SO QUIET.
UGH!

D-DOES IT HURT?
SORRY, I-
And it's my first time as an uke.
!
It's still so bright.
AH.
I HAVE ONLY LOVE FOR YOU.
OVER HERE.
UH,
HMM.
sigh
AS FOR KNOW-LEDGE...
WELL...

NGH.
MIZUSAWA-SAN...
...IT'S ALRIGHT.
MOVE
YOU'RE STARTING TO FALL FOR ME,
AREN'T YOU?

...YEAH.

I think I am.

Because it's you...

splurt

I SWITCHED...

SEXUAL ROLES!

...I CAN'T BELIEVE

But

.....

Yoshiike seemed so happy and so sure.

CHECKING YOUR ROOM

look

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

look

Well... as long as he understands my feelings.

HMM?

PLEASE SHOUT AT ME IF YOU'RE ANGRY!

NO! I WAS JUST JOKING!

grab

YOU KNOW...

FOR SOME TRACES OF YOUR LIKE LIFE!

Thank you for reading this!
finally compiled all the convenience store stories into 1 book,
thanks to suggestions by all the readers. Thanks from my heart.
And so... please support my next work

読んでいただいてありがとうございました！
コンビニシリーズとして丸々1冊にまとめられたのも
読者様の声のおかげです。心から感謝しております。

ではまた…またお目にかかれたら嬉しいです。

Editors F-sama
U-sama

編集 F様
U様

手伝ってくれた友人
読んでくださった皆様

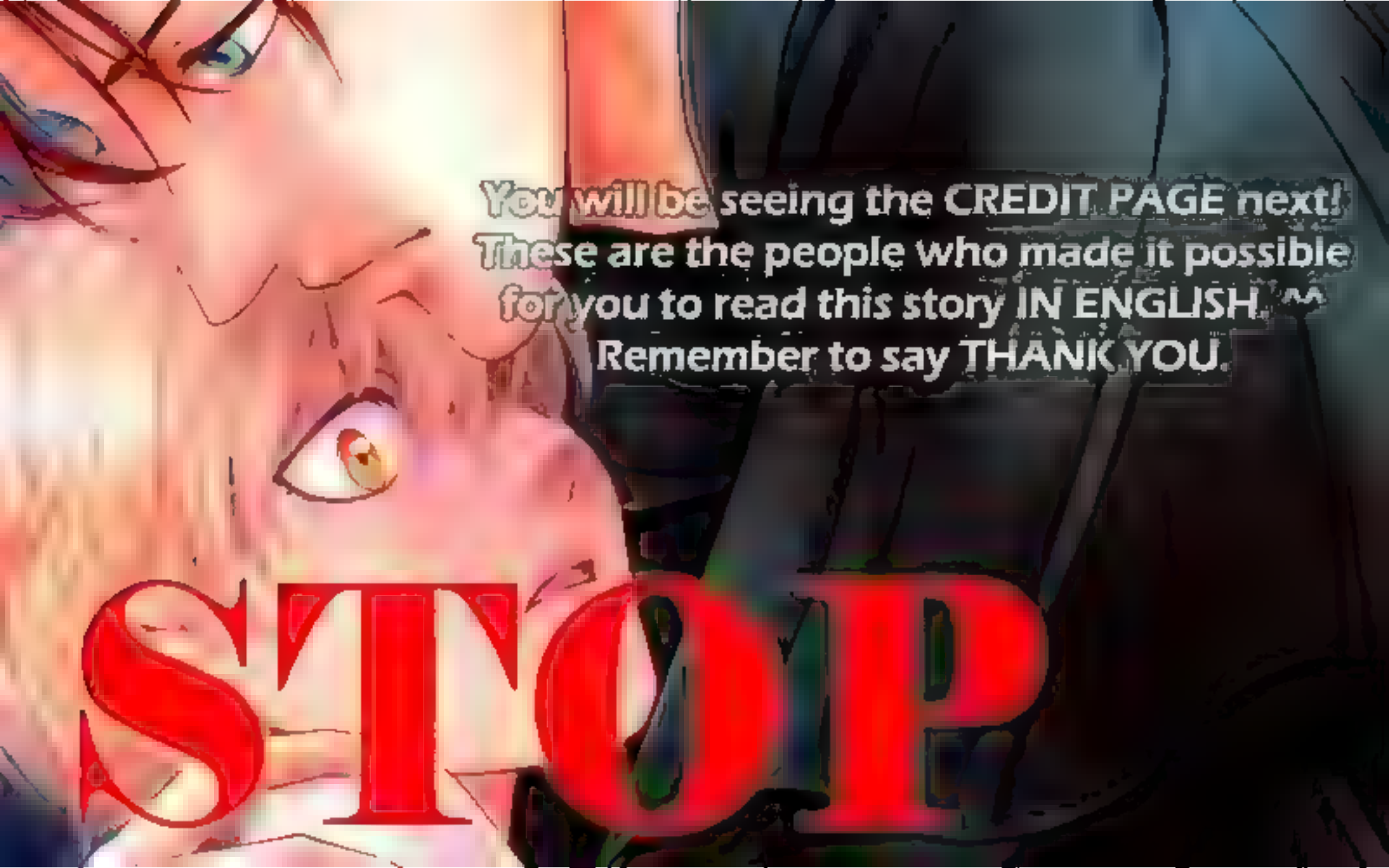
Friends who helped out
Everyone who read this

中田アキラ

Nakata Akira

ありがとうございました！

Thank you!


You will be seeing the CREDIT PAGE next!
These are the people who made it possible
for you to read this story IN ENGLISH. ^^
Remember to say THANK YOU.
STOP

It's LOVE, Manager

"Tenchou, KOI desu."

by. Nakata Akira

EXTRA

Shinmakoku*
PC Wolfram von Bielefeld
Scanner Wolfram
Translator J.C.
Editor Conrad Weller
PR Hanazono Hikari

THIS WAS WHAT HAPPENED.
YONEMURA'S STORY.

Yonemura

New store opening. Day 1 of 3-day sales campaign. ← Last day of sales campaign, came home to see Andou outside his door ← Andou's fever acted up and he fainted, confined to Yonemura's bed for a whole day.

Andou

Fever subsided. ← Next night, worked night shift with new supervisor ← New supervisor went to help out at the new store, Andou raided Yonemura's home that night. ← Slept in for more than a day, so missed another day of work.

Higashino was pissed!

OF COURSE, YOU AREN'T EVEN LEGAL TO DRINK ALCOHOL!
glare
...YOU'RE TREATING ME LIKE A KID, YONEMURA?
I'LL BE LEGAL SOON... AND THAT'S NOT MY POINT!
kiss
!!
kiss
grab
...I AM
A MAN, TOO.

!!
YOU ...!
pull
Can't tear it.
pull
...AH!!
suck
...OW OW OW!
YOU'RE REALLY THE BEST AT CATCHING ME OFF GUARD!!
push push push
IT HURTS, YOU IDIOT...!

End

It's just the beginning of a relationship for this two!!

《初出》
●店長、恋です. act.1●「CIEL」2013年9月号
●店長、恋です. act.2●「CIEL」2013年11月号
●店長、恋です. 米村シフト act.1●「CIEL」2014年1月号
●店長、恋です. 米村シフト act.2●「CIEL」2014年5月号
●幸せにするから覚悟しろ●「CIEL」2013年5月号
●米村シフト 休憩中●描きおろし

あすかコミックスCL-DX
店長、恋です。

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